

Declaration of Local State of Disaster Due to a Public Health Emergency

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, Greg Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas, under the authority vested in him by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas in response to the imminent threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas, on June 11, 2020, the Governor extended the state of disaster for the State of Texas for an additional 30 days; and

Whereas the transmission of COVID-19 has not dissipated but remains a significant threat to the health and safety of citizens of the County of Victoria, and rates of infection are increasing at an alarming rate despite efforts by local authorities to control the threat; and

Whereas the County Judge of the County of Victoria has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to try and mitigate the effects of this public health emergency and facilitate a response to the public health threat; and

Whereas, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, as amended, Texas Government Code Annotated, Chapter 418, (the "Texas Disaster Act"), the County Judge is designated as the Emergency Management Director of the County of Victoria, and may exercise the powers granted to the Governor on an appropriate local scale; and

Whereas, a declaration of local disaster due to this public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated and request assistance from the Governor of state resources

Now, therefore it be proclaimed by the County Judge of Victoria County, Texas:

1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for the County of Victoria pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

- 2. That pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioner's Court of Victoria County.
- 3. That pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
- 4. That pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City/County emergency management plan.
 - 5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 23rd Day of June, 2020.

Ben Zeller, County Judge of the County of Victoria

Attested and Approved as to Legal Form:

Constance Filley Johnson, Criminal District Attorney